

Just look at the power that clean energy already has in our country. The clean energy sector was one of the Nation's fastest growing job sectors.

Solar jobs: In 2010, we had 93,000 workers. By now, we have 345,000.

Wind jobs: In 2010, 75,000 employees. By 2020, up to 114,000.

Energy efficiency jobs: 830,000 in 2010. Now, it is up to 2.1 million people working in energy efficiency in our country.

That worker power is matched by actual power. Just listen to these generation achievements. We have gone from 1,200 megawatts of solar in 2008 to 120,000 megawatts today.

For wind, it has gone from 25,000 to 143,000 megawatts. All-electric vehicles—there were only 2,500 all-electric vehicles in the United States in 2008. That was a crime, that we had fallen so far behind, that the auto industry in the United States just sat down on the job, but by 2030, we are now expecting 18 million new jobs—18 million new electric vehicles on the streets of our country.

This is America's strength. This is where we can dominate the world—the clean energy economy. We will not free ourselves from Putin's energy clutches by staring down the dark barrel of a gun but by harnessing the clean energy of the Sun.

If Vladimir Putin's market for fossil fuel shrinks, so does his ability to finance threats and sow division around the world. In order to defuse tensions around Europe, we need a revolution—a clean energy revolution.

Our wind turbines are weapons against Russia's pipelines. Our solar panels are shields against Siberian oil. Together with the EU's European Green Deal, that is how we will fight and win the clean energy revolution that will finally disarm Putin's dirty regime.

Our first step is to pass the climate justice and clean energy provisions from the Build Back Better bill. That \$555 billion investment includes tax credits and rebates in clean energy, heat pumps, all-electric vehicles, advanced domestic manufacturing, wind and solar, which will be made in America. A clean economy will be created.

Those credits are coupled with a technology-neutral climate and clean energy bank that will help finance the clean economy and a Civilian Climate Corps, which will train the next generation of young people and workers to bring jobs and justice to our local communities.

We need to deploy one of our greatest assets against Putin: American ingenuity and the American workers, a well-trained, well-paid battalion of American workers who will build our clean energy revolution with jobs that cannot be outsourced. This clean energy revolution is worth fighting for, and I know we can do it.

Now we need to build on the past 12 years of domestic clean energy success and help build European economies

that no longer have to rely on Vladimir Putin to heat their homes and power their cars.

The United States imports Russian oil. Europe imports Russian gas. What if, instead, we exported climate innovation and leadership to the world? That is the clean energy revolution that could stem the possibility of war and climate catastrophe.

We don't need Russia's oil any more than we need Russia's caviar if we are serious in our country. We need a new NATO that comes together and forges an alliance to deploy all-electric vehicles, to deploy wind and solar, so we back out the oil and gas—not only in Europe, not only in the United States, but all around the world—that we use.

This is our moment. We have a chance here in the U.S. Senate to respond. But I don't want to hear anything more from the American Petroleum Institute—the “American Prevarication Institute.” Their policies are the ones that we are living with today. Those are the policies that must change. That is the only way in which we can meet this healthcare, environmental, national security, and moral issue of all time. If we do it, generations in the future will look back and say that we responded to that challenge.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The Senator from Nebraska.

#### SUPER BOWL LVI

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, like many Americans, Nebraskans were rooting for the Bengals on Sunday. Everyone loves a good underdog story. The Bengals hadn't won a playoff game in more than 30 years until this season, and they were effectively the visiting team in a Super Bowl that was played in Los Angeles against the L.A. Rams.

Outside of Ohio, Nebraska may have more connection to the Bengals than any other State. To start, Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow has deep roots in Nebraska. Both of his brothers, Jamie and Dan, played for the Huskers in the early 2000s. His mom Robin grew up in Tecumseh, NE, and Burrow has uncles and other relatives scattered around southeast Nebraska.

His grandfather Wayne is a farmer in Johnson County. Wayne has watched every Super Bowl for 56 years, going back to Super Bowl I in 1967. This year was the first time he has attended the big game in person to cheer on his grandson and the Bengals.

Maybe best of all, Joe Burrow's dad played for the Nebraska Huskers in the seventies before going on to a career in the NFL and the Canadian Football League. Later, as an assistant coach, he was part of the Husker team that took on No. 1 Miami in the 2002 Rose Bowl. Husker football fans remember that game as the last time Nebraska has played for a national championship—not good. Five-year-old Joe Burrow was there in Pasadena to support his dad, making Sunday's Super Bowl

the second time he has traveled to L.A. for a national title game.

Even by themselves, Joe Burrow's Nebraska connections would have been enough to make Husker Nation pull for the Bengals, but Bengals Coach Zac Taylor is another reason that Nebraskans were with Cincinnati on Sunday. He was the Huskers' starting quarterback for the 2005 and 2006 seasons, throwing for nearly 6,000 yards and 45 touchdowns. He was also the last Cornhusker to win the Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year Award.

He credits his success as a player to Nebraska's coach at the time, Bill Callahan. Now, he has Brian Callahan, Bill's son, on his staff as his offensive coordinator. Troy Walters, the Bengals' wide receivers coach, was Nebraska's offensive coordinator from 2017 to 2019.

Another Bengals player with Nebraska ties is Stanley Morgan. He signed with the Bengals in 2019 after a stellar college career with the Huskers, and he is easily one of the best receivers in Husker football history. Morgan rewrote Nebraska's wide receiver record books from 2015 to 2018. He holds the record for career receptions and receiving yards and also for single-season receiving yards. With that last record, he eclipsed the previous total Nebraska football legend Johnny Rodgers set on his way to winning the Heisman Trophy in 1972. Now Morgan has a bright future ahead of him in the NFL.

Nebraska's connections to this Bengals team is strong. The team came up just short on Sunday, but Nebraskans are proud of what they accomplished this season. Joe Burrow and Zac Taylor led this team of underdogs to a game no one expected to see them in, and they ended the longest active playoffs drought in the NFL while they were at it.

Things are looking up for this Nebraska-led team. I look forward to seeing them in the playoffs again next year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be able to finish my remarks prior to the scheduled vote at 11:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, at the end of this month, the U.S. Supreme Court is slated to hear oral arguments in the case of West Virginia v. EPA, in which the Justices will consider the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. The stakes could not be higher. This case will have lasting impacts in Maryland, the Nation, and the planet.

As we follow the science and work to mitigate the damaging impacts of climate change, it is imperative that the Court respect EPA's authority, which

Congress granted, to regulate greenhouse gas emissions to protect public health and the environment.

I would like to take a moment to consider where we are and how we got here.

At issue in the case is the question of whether EPA acted outside of its statutory authority when it promulgated in 2015 the Clean Power Plan, the CPP, which established guidelines for States to limit carbon dioxide emissions from powerplants. The Trump administration repealed the CPP and issued in its place the Affordable Clean Energy rule, which eliminated or deferred the guidelines. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit vacated the Affordable Clean Energy rule as arbitrary and capricious.

One of the challengers, North American Coal Corporation, challenged how broad the EPA's authority is to regulate greenhouse gas emissions.

Notably, the Clean Power Plan was never implemented. Yet several of the parties challenging the plan are asking the Supreme Court to issue a decision far beyond whether the CPP constitutes a reasonable interpretation of section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act. The challengers have put forth interpretations of two legal doctrines—the non-delegation and major questions doctrines—that could, if adopted, strip EPA of its authority to regulate greenhouse gases entirely.

The Supreme Court has spoken on the Clean Air Act. In 2007, in *Massachusetts v. EPA*, a Supreme Court decision ruled that EPA has the authority to regulate heat-trapping gases in vehicle emissions. The majority found that the Agency could not sidestep its authority to regulate greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change unless it could prove a scientific basis for its refusal. There is none.

The same year, in *Environmental Defense v. Duke Energy*, the Court ruled unanimously with regards to the EPA's authority to regulate factories and powerplants that add capacity or make renovations that increase emissions of air pollutants.

In the current case of *West Virginia v. EPA*, I joined Chairman CARPER's amicus brief with nearly 200 Members of Congress. The brief illustrates EPA's authority under the Clean Air Act to protect the public from harmful pollution, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and address the climate crisis. It also rejects arguments made by the petitioners challenging the EPA's authority to address carbon pollution. It is among a notable number of briefs filed in this case, many citing my home State of Maryland.

In their brief in support of the respondents, climate scientists observe that heavy rain and snowstorms across most of the United States have increased in both intensity and frequency since 2001. The Northeast region also faces flooding, particularly in the historic districts of cities like Annapolis,

MD—home to the U.S. Naval Academy—and Newport, RI, as well as portions of Washington, DC, near the Tidal Basin. For example, human-caused climate change made the exceptionally heavy precipitation and flooding events that occurred in 2018 in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, and Washington, DC, up to 2.3 times more likely.

The Washington Post reported that more than 40 percent of Americans live in counties hit by climate-related disasters in 2021, including three in Maryland: St. Mary's County and Calvert County in Southern Maryland and Dorchester County along Maryland's Eastern Shore. According to FEMA data, each suffered declared disasters spawned by hurricanes.

Because of the vulnerability in my home State, I took direct action in 2019. I was proud to lead an effort with over 20 of my colleagues in a joint resolution providing for the congressional disapproval of the Trump administration's repeal of the Clean Power Plan.

Maryland is at risk not only to extreme weather events but also to slow-onset climate impacts that are equally damaging.

The National Park Conservation Association in its brief remarks on Maryland's cultural history:

The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park is located in . . . Maryland. The approximate elevation of the park is a mere three feet above sea level and is surrounded by the inlets of the Chesapeake Bay. Viewed another way, 3 feet is half the depth of one-quarter of the bay.

As water levels continue to rise, this national historic park may be permanently lost.

The National Park Conservation Association's brief discusses the obligations Congress conferred on EPA to protect public lands and their resources.

On February 15, NOAA announced the interagency "Sea Level Rise Technical Report," which provides the most up-to-date sea level rise scenarios, available for all U.S. States and territories. The report projects sea levels along the coastline will rise an additional 10 to 12 inches by 2050, with specific amounts varying regionally, mainly due to land height changes.

This effort is a product of the interagency Sea Level Rise and Coastal Flood Hazard and Tool Task Force, comprised of NOAA, NASA, EPA, USGS, Department of Defense, FEMA, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as several academic institutions. The report leverages methods and insights from both the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change "Sixth Assessment Report" and supporting research from the U.S. Department of Defense regional sea level database. The report tells us that the United States is expected to experience as much sea level rise by the year 2050 as it witnessed in the previous 100 years, and it must serve as a wake-up call.

Maryland's urban and suburban centers, in addition to our rural commu-

nities and coasts, are in danger. The National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors in their brief state that Baltimore, MD, as well as other major cities, including Washington, DC, Philadelphia, and Boston, have all experienced significant increases in exposure to wildfire smoke that prevailing winds carry across the country.

State and local governments are taking action. In their brief, the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors cite that in 2013, "Baltimore developed comprehensive responses—touching infrastructure, building codes, natural coastal barriers, and public services—to threats from rising seas, heat waves, and storms. [In central Maryland], Annapolis developed a first-in-the-nation Cultural Resources Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2018 to mitigate climate impacts on important cultural and historical landmarks, and the Eastern Shore Climate Adaptation Partnership has brought together local governments from across the Eastern Shore to prepare for climate impacts."

Private companies, too, are among subnational actors that are all-in on climate. Maryland's McCormick & Company has set a new, more ambitious goal for reducing greenhouse gas emissions 42 percent by 2030, after achieving its prior target of 20 percent by 2025—4 years earlier than expected. The spice manufacturer and Fortune 500 company has also announced a new commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, in line with the enhanced U.S. National Determined Contribution Secretary Kerry delivered ahead of the COP26 meeting that occurred last year. But the company cannot mitigate climate change alone. The Federal Government must support it. The Clean Air Act is an essential tool by which we do so.

Through the Build Back Better agenda and elsewhere, Congress is taking an all-of-the-above strategy to combat climate change, complemented by the Biden administration's whole-of-government approach.

I am proud that the draft Senate Environment and Public Works Committee title to fulfill reconciliation instructions includes funding legislation to make Federal buildings greener. But more is needed. The legislation also includes funding for water utilities to enhance their resilience to natural hazards as authorized by the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

The Supreme Court must tread carefully in curtailing any specific tool, including the Clean Air Act, and must not intercede where legislative efforts to curb EPA's authority have failed. Conversely, we must continue to pursue as many avenues as possible to deal with the climate crisis.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.